

First and foremost, our property taxes here in Ashford (and everywhere else in CT) have gone way over the top of what the average family can afford. I live in a small, less than 900 sq ft ranch and pay well over \$4000 on just that property, not to mention two 7-year-old cars which are overtaxed as well. This is simply unsustainable for my wife and I. We are looking at properties in Virginia and North Carolina and will be moving somewhere down there when my wife retires next June. I'm also being taxed here on my small state pension (I only put in 16 years at UConn, so it's not huge) and my social security benefit, which I took at age 63. So because of being taxed to the hilt here in CT, it's a no-brainer to move to where my income is not being raided by politicians who cannot stop their out-of-control spending. We all know the facts = CT doesn't have a revenue problem, it has a spending problem. Until that changes, CT will continue to see the exodus of working families, and not just retired folks, heading to more tax-friendly states.

I'm sure my thoughts echo those of many, many other CT residents. I can only hope that the politicians will finally wake up and reduce taxes before there's too few people left in the state to pay them.

George Lee
197 Westford Hill Rd., Ashford, CT